

Practitioner's Docket No. SST/1083

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

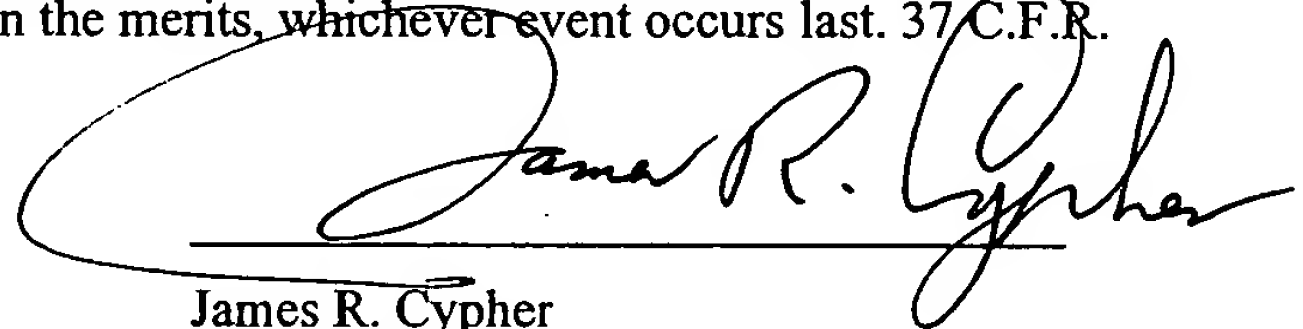
In re application of: Crawford, Mark G.; Pryor, Steven E.; and Commins, Alfred D.
 Application No.: 09/728,187 Group No.: 3635
 Filed: December 1, 2000 Examiner: Katcheves, B.
 For: Screw Fastener in Multiple Floor Truss and Wood-to-Wood Shear Connection

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
 WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR
 BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b))

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING
 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b).

Date: December 5, 2002


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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.8(a) and 1.10*
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Signature
 Nicolas S. Gold
 (type or print name of person certifying)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)
3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
4. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
5. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

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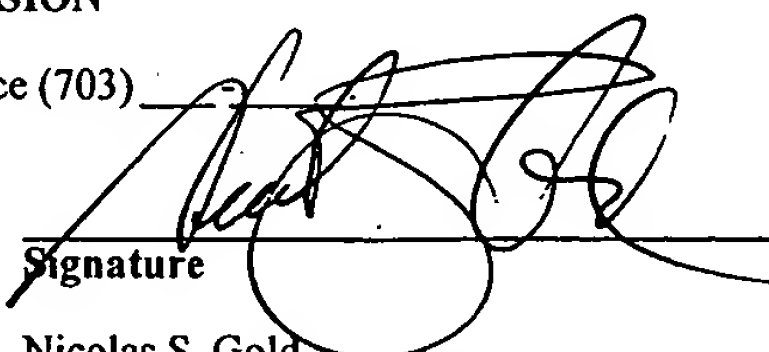
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Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.



Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/728,187
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Filing Date	12/01/2000
		First Named Inventor	Mark G. Crawford
		Group Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	Katcheves, B.
		Attorney Docket Number	SST/1083
Sheet	1	of	1

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		MERK GMBH, "SFS WT-System Von Merk," Merk, Merk GmbH (Germany), consisting of 2 pages and 2 pages of English translations, (at least as early as October 22, 2002).	X
		QUADRIGA, "Praxisorientierte Diplomarbeiten," Quadriga Die Hochschuleseite, Quadriga, (Germany), numbered page 66 and 1 page of English translation, (January 1997).	X
		BEUTH VERLAG GMBH, "Structural Use of Timber," Deutsche Norm, Beuth Verlag GmbH (Germany), numbered pages 1-27, (April 1988).	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

4 of 23

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Section 3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

Section 4. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents

Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions of those patents, publications or information considered to be material:

1. European Patent 0 937 832 A2, published on August 25, 1999, Applicant: MiTek Industries GmbH.
2. German Patent 100 51 793 A1, published on May 31, 2001, Applicant: Bulldog-Simpson GmbH.
3. Non-Patent prior art entitled "SFS WT-System Von Merk," by MERK GmbH.
4. Non-Patent prior art entitled "Praxisorientierte Diplomarbeiten," published on January 1997 by Quadriga.